1608/5727.

THE VOLUNTEER OFFICER's GUIDE

THROUGH

A REVIEW,

OF TWELVE MANŒUVRES,

WITH

AN APPENDIX,

OFFERED TO THEIR ATTENTION,

Chiefly extracted from the "Rules and Regulations for the Formations, Field Exercise, and Movements, of His MAJESTY's Forces," issued in 1798; and other Works published consistent with the present System of British Military Discipline.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Manœuvres contained in the following pages, which are chiefly extracted from the "Rules and Regulations for His Majeſty's Forces," and other military publications, are drawn up in the order of a review, and offered as a guide to Officers of Volunteer Corps, whoſe ſituations may not permit their reading works that are complicated, or require much ſtudy.

The directions laid down for their inſtruction are ſuch as, it is hoped, will enable them at all times and changes of the battalion to know their reſpective ſituations; and that the remarks contained in the Appendix will be found worthy of their attention.

Should the author be fortunate enough to render the ſmalleſt ſervice, or aſſiſtance, to even but a few, he will be amply compenſated for his trouble.

THE

ERRATA.

Page 11. line 26. *by the rear* to be omitted.
23. 2d line from bottom, for *rener* read *render*.
7. 8th line from bottom, read *on* the pivot.

THE

VOLUNTEER OFFICER's GUIDE

THROUGH

A REVIEW.

THE battalion being drawn up on the regimental parade, two or three deep, and being told off (by order of the Adjutant) into grand diviſions, diviſions, ſubdiviſions, and ſections, and being ſhouldered, the Officers take poſt according to ſeniority, from flanks to centre—the eldeſt Captains on the right of grand diviſions—(the guns being on the flanks).

The Battalion is then ready for the Commanding Officer.

BATTALION!—ORDER ARMS!

FIX BAYONETS!

As the men fix, the Officers draw their ſwords.—N. B. In giving words of command, as well in as out of the ranks, Officers are to ſtand perfectly ſteady, and in their proper poſition; their ſwords held firmly in the full of the right hand, with the upper part of the blade reſting againſt the ſhoulder, the right wriſt againſt the hip, and the elbow drawn back*.

SHOULDER ARMS!

REAR RANKS!—TAKE OPEN ORDER!

The right hand man of the centre and rear ranks of each diviſion ſtep back, the former one, and the latter two paces, facing to the right (the Serjeant-Major taking care that all the pivots cover each other). The Officers recovering their ſwords, take poſt in front, cloſe to the front rank, the Captains on the ſecond right file, the firſt Lieutenants on the ſecond left, and the ſecond Lieutenants or Enſigns in the centre.—On the word—

MARCH!

The centre rank ſprings back one pace, and the rear rank

* See the Manual and Platoon Exerciſe, by His Majeſty's Command.

men ſpring back two paces, in a line with the pivots (who, upon this *word*, front the battalion), by whom they dreſs. The Officers at the ſame time advance three paces (*taking the line from*, and dreſſing by, the Officer on the right), and bringing their ſwords acroſs the body, in a direction from the right hip bone to the left ſhoulder, remain in that poſition: the band advances through the interval in the centre, between the Officers and front rank.

Receiving the Colours.—The colours being ready for the ſecond Lieutenants, are advanced with the reſerve between the Officers and front rank, where they remain until the word is given—

BATTALION!—PRESENT ARMS!

The men preſent, and the colours are delivered: On the ſecond motion of the *preſent*, the Officers recover their ſwords; and on the laſt, come to the ſaluting poſition, where they remain until the muſic ceaſe, and the word is given—

BATTALION!—SHOULDER ARMS!

The men ſhoulder: On the firſt motion, the Officers again recover their ſwords; and on the laſt, bring them to the original poſition acroſs the body.

REAR RANKS!—TAKE CLOSE ORDER!

The Officers, recovering their ſwords, face to the right: the band face outwards—

MARCH!

The centre and rear ranks ſpring up one and two paces; the Officers take poſt with their diviſions; and the band marches to the rear, through the intervals of the right and left centre diviſion.—* The colours are placed between the fourth and fifth battalion companies, both in the front rank, and each covered by a non-commiſſioned Officer, or ſteady man in the rear rank: One Serjeant is in the front rank betwixt the colours; he is covered by a ſecond Serjeant in the rear rank, and by a third in the ſupernumerary rank. The ſole buſineſs of theſe three Serjeants is, when the battalion moves in line, to advance and direct the march. When they move out, the place of the firſt is preſerved by a named Officer, or the Serjeant-Major, who moves up from the ſupernumerary rank for that purpoſe.

* His Majeſty's Regulations, p. 84.

If the reviewing ground is at any diſtance, although it is a general rule that the battalion ſhould march off the parade, in ſubdiviſions or ſections, in ſlow time, it may nevertheleſs be changed to quick, and the arms on the march ſupported or carried at diſcretion.

Caution!—The battalion will break into open column of ſubdiviſions or ſections—(right or left in front).

BY SUBDIVISIONS, ON YOUR (right or left) BACKWARDS WHEEL!

The pivot men make a face to the intended front. The Officer goes to the centre of his ſubdiviſion (or ſection) with his ſword acroſs his body, as before directed.

MARCH!

The ſubdiviſions or ſections then wheel backwards on their pivots: the Officer inclines to the pivot, where he *halts* and *dreſſes* his ſubdiviſion or ſection. In ſubdiviſions, ſometimes, *for want of officers*, and in ſections invariably, non-commiſſioned Officers are employed to command. The Officer always takes the leading one of his company. If the column be right in front, the non-commiſſioned Officers muſt ſhift in the rear; but if the left be in front, they will advance in front. The Officer in the rear of the column takes the rear ſubdiviſion or ſection.

N. B. When the right is in front, the left is the pivot, and *vice verſa*.

The order of the march is then as follows;

Pioneers, in two ranks,

Battalion Guns,

Band,

Colonel, in the rear of the band on the right,

Lieutenant-Colonel, in the rear on the left, a few paces behind the Colonel,

Colours, in the pivot flank between the 4th and 5th diviſions,

Major, in the rear of the right of the laſt diviſion,

Adjutant, in the rear on the left of the laſt diviſion, a few paces behind the Major.

The battalion, having arrived at the reviewing ground, is wheeled into a line from the order of march. Open order is then taken *(as deſcribed in p. 5.)*, to be ready to receive the General.

The

The open order is then as follows:
Officers and Colours, three paces advanced,
Major, on the right of the Officers' line,
Adjutant, on the left of the front rank,
Lieutenant-Colonel, two paces before the regimental colours,
Colonel, four paces before the King's,
Battalion Guns, on the flanks,
Staff, on the right of the line of officers,
Muſic, in the centre between the colours and front rank,
Pioneers, ſix paces behind the centre of the rear rank,
Drums, ſix paces behind their diviſions.

N. B. When the battalion is reviewed ſingly, then, in order to make more ſhow, the diviſions of drummers may be moved up, and formed two deep on each flank of the line. When the battalion reſumes cloſe order, the drummers, if on the flanks, face to the centre, and march into the rear of the ſecond and ſeventh diviſions. The ſtaff faces to the right.

The whole being now in order, wait the General's arrival. He is to be received with the compliments due to his rank, as ſet forth in the Regulations of Military Honours*. A camp colour is placed 80 or 100 paces in front of the centre of the battalion, where the General is ſuppoſed to take his ſtation: but, although he may chooſe to quit that poſition, ſtill that colour is to be conſidered as the point *to work upon*, and to which all movements and formations are relative.

The General having arrived, and placed himſelf fronting the centre, at about 50 or 60 paces diſtant, the Commanding Officer gives the word—

BATTALION!—PRESENT ARMS!

The Battalion preſents, and the officers ſalute *(as in p. 6.)* Muſic plays *God ſave the King*, and drummers beat a march. The battalion will then

SHOULDER ARMS!

† The General then moves to the right, and paſſes in front of the regiment, the men remaining perfectly ſteady with carried arms; the muſic playing, and drums beating, but no compliment from the officers. Should he paſs along the rear, the battalion does not face about. As ſoon as the General has re-

* Sir William Fawcet's Rules and Regulations, p. 310. publiſhed by authority.

† Reid's Treatiſe, chap. 3. p. 154.

turned

turned to the right flank of the battalion, the muſic and drums ceaſe. After inſpecting the battalion, he returns to ſee the regiment march paſt. The Commanding Officer gives theſe words of command—

REAR RANKS!—TAKE CLOSE ORDER!

MARCH!

The Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel then mount on horſe-back in rear of the centre.

The battalion is now to march paſt the general. Points will be aſcertained by the Adjutant or Serjeant-Major, for the exact wheelings of the ſeveral diviſions, ſo that their right flanks, in marching paſt, ſhall be only 4 paces diſtant from the camp colour, where it is ſuppoſed the General places himſelf to receive the ſalute.

Caution!—The battalion will break into open columns of companies (or diviſions) right in front.

BY COMPANIES—ON YOUR LEFT BACKWARD WHEEL!

The companies then wheel, as directed in page 7. the whole taking poſt, as in the order of march, page 7. The drummers and fifers are on the left of their reſpective companies. On the word—

ORDINARY TIME!—MARCH!

the whole ſtep off together (without muſic), the Officers obſerving, during the march, that the diſtances between the companies be preſerved.

On every wheel made, each company will receive from its own Officer, *Halt! Left Wheel!*—and when the wheel is completed, *Halt! Dreſs!*—The word *March* is given, when the company following it has arrived on its wheeling point, and received the word—*Halt! Left Wheel!*—By theſe means, the diſtances will be well preſerved, if the regular ſtep of 30 inches is taken.

After the ſecond wheel, which is in the line in which they paſs the General, as ſoon as the leading company receives the word *March!* the muſic plays. When it has advanced ſix paces from the wheeling point, the Officer commanding it changes by the rear to the right flank, and there gives the word, *Eyes Right!* the better to prepare it for taking open order.

The companies (in ſucceſſion) having arrived within 50 paces

paces of the General, receive from their reſpective Officers the word—*Rear Ranks! Take Open Order!*

The centre and rear ranks mark time one and two paces, during which the Officers move in front (as in p. 5.) at three paces advanced: the ſupernumerary Serjeants are three paces in the rear of their ſeveral diviſions, the covering Serjeants having moved into the place quitted by the Captain, or Officer commanding the diviſion, and in that poſition they march; and the Officers ſalute, about 6 paces before they arrive oppoſite to the General, remaining ſo until they have paſſed the General 10 paces; the drummers, being on the left of their reſpective companies, give a roll when the officer of their own company ſalutes. The Officers then bring their ſwords to the original poſition acroſs the body, and continue marching until they have gone 30 paces paſt the General, when the Officer moves by the rear to the left flank, and the ſupernumerary Officers into the fourth rank, the word *Ranks Cloſe!* having been previouſly given by each Officer commanding a company, whenever he moves from the right flank, which is done in quick time; after which he gives the word—*Eyes Left!*

The Commanding Officer, after having ſaluted at the head of the regiment, places himſelf near the General, where he remains until the laſt diviſion is paſt*. When the battalion has arrived at the third wheeling point, the Commanding Officer gives the word—

HALT!—SUPPORT ARMS!—QUICK MARCH!

N. B. On every wheel made, each company has the word given by its officer, *Halt!—Left Wheel!—Halt!—Dreſs!—March!* The whole then ſtep off in quick time (without muſic). Before the leading company has arrived at the wheeling point which again brings it on a line with the General, the Commanding Officer gives the word—*Carry Arms!* When the leading company has wheeled and received the word *March!* the muſic plays. The Officer commanding each company, after having marched 6 paces from the wheeling point (as in ordinary time), falls by the rear of his company, and takes poſt on the right flank, giving the word—*Eyes Right!* and in that poſition marches paſt the General (but without ſa-

* Reid's Treatiſe.

luting),

luting), carrying his ſword ſteadily in the hollow of his right ſhoulder. The ranks remain well cloſed up; and the ſupernumerary Officers and Serjeants march in a rank in the rear of their diviſions, one pace from the rear rank.

After paſſing the General 30 paces, each Officer again ſhifts (in the rear of his company), and takes poſt on the left, giving the word—*Eyes Left!*

When the head of the column approaches the left of the ground on which it originally received the General, the Commanding Officer gives the word—HALT!—ORDINARY TIME!—MARCH!—(without muſic). In this time they march to the original ground.

It is here particularly neceſſary, that from the wheeling point every Officer be attentive in judging his diſtance for wheeling into line; if neceſſary, the pivots are inſtantly corrected; and when the Commanding Officer ſees that the column is on its own ground, he gives the word,

HALT!—LEFT WHEEL AND FORM LINE!

Each pivot (~~or left flank~~) man faces to the left; the Officer goes to the centre of his company; and on the word—

QUICK MARCH!

the men wheel forward to the left, inclining to the right (the wheeling flank), in order to come round together. The Officer inclines to the right of his company, and *Halts* and *Dreſſes* it on the ſecond file on the left of his right hand company, then ſhifts (by the rear) to the right of his own, in a line with the men.

The Muſic, Drummers, and Pioneers, take poſt in the rear.

The battalion is now ready to go through its evolutions. If the General ſhould order the manual and platoon exerciſe, the Commanding Officer will give the

Caution!—The battalion will perform the manual and platoon exerciſe—

and then goes to the rear of the battalion.

The Major then advances in front, and gives the word,

REAR RANKS! TAKE OPEN ORDER!—(as in p. 5.)

MARCH!—(as in p. 5.)

In this poſition the following words:

ORDER ARMS!—UNFIX BAYONETS!—SHOULDER ARMS!

OFFICERS! TO THE RIGHT FACE!

They

They recover their ſwords, and face to the right.

QUICK MARCH!

They then march through the intervals of the companies to the rear, and when 3 paces beyond the rear rank they halt, and receive the word—

FRONT!

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel, Adjutant, &c. are at their poſts in the rear, as when the battalion is at cloſe order.

The battalion in cloſe order as follows:

Colonel, *Lieutenant-Colonel*, and *Adjutant*, in the rear of the centre.

Pioneers, two deep behind the centre, 9 paces from the rear rank.

Battalion Drummers, in two diviſions, at 6 paces behind the ſecond and ſeventh battalion companies.

Granadier and *Light Company Drummers*, 6 paces behind their reſpective companies.

Muſic, 3 paces behind the Pioneers, in a ſingle rank.

Staff, 3 paces behind the Muſic.

The Major then proceeds with the manual.

BATTALION! ORDER ARMS.

FIX BAYONETS!—SHOULDER ARMS!—PRESENT ARMS!

SHOULDER ARMS!—CHARGE BAYONETS!

N. B. When he comes to the *Charge Bayonets!* he gives a *Caution!—That the rear ranks are to port Arms only while the front charge**.

☞ The Serjeants who occupy the places of Officers remain ſteady during the whole of the manual, except that they charge their pikes when the men charge their bayonets.

SHOULDER ARMS!

The Major then cloſes the ranks for the platoon exerciſe.

REAR RANKS!—TAKE CLOSE ORDER!

The Officers in the rear recover their ſwords.

QUICK MARCH!

The centre and rear ranks ſpring up one and two paces; and the Officers advance and take poſt with their reſpective companies.

* Reid's Treatiſe.

The

The following words of command are then given:

BATTALION!—MAKE READY!

(Each according to its ſituation of front, centre, and rear).

PRESENT!—FIRE!

HANDLE CARTRIDGE!

PRIME!

LOAD!

DRAW RAMMER!

RAM DOWN CARTRIDGE!

RETURN RAMMER!

SHOULDER ARMS!

The Major then goes to his poſt. The Commanding Officer in the rear then gives the word—

WITH CARTRIDGE! PRIME AND LOAD!

and then proceeds with the manœuvres.

N°. I.

Close Column in Rear of the Right Company.

Caution!—The battalion will form a cloſe column of companies in rear of the right company—(A—pl. N°. 1.)

REMAINING COMPANIES! TO THE RIGHT FACE!

The whole face to the right (except the company on which the column is to be formed): the Officer commanding this company ſhifts by the rear to the left: the Officer and 3 file (if 3 deep) of the head of each of the other companies will diſengage one ſtep to the right. On the word QUICK MARCH! the Officer leads his company by a regular pace (ſo that the men may keep locked up); and when he has arrived on the left of the company before him, he there halts, fronting his company, in order to ſee that it does not over-march; and when it has covered the leading company, he gives the word—*Halt!—Front!—Dreſs!*— Care muſt be taken to preſerve one pace between the rear rank of the preceding company and the front of the ſucceeding one. The Officers poſt themſelves

on the left flanks (the right being in front), and cover exactly the Officers in front.

Caution!—Form column of grand diviſions (B—No. 1.)

LEFT COMPANIES! LEFT FACE! (*i. e.* ſecond, fourth, ſixth, and eighth battalion companies, face to the left) and, on the word—QUICK MARCH! they ſtep off together. The Officers commanding theſe companies remain on the left of the other ſtanding companies facing to the rear; and as ſoon as the right of his company arrives on the left of the ſtanding company, he gives the word—*Halt! Front! Dreſs!* after which they order them to *March! Halt! Dreſs!* with thoſe on their right. The Officers commanding the right companies are on their right, and thoſe of the left companies on the left.

Caution!—The column will cloſe to the front.—(C—No. 1.)

MARCH!

Each grand diviſion is *halted* and *dreſſed*, when within one pace of the preceding one, by the Officer on the right.

Caution!—The column will march to the right, and deploy on the rear grand diviſion—(D—No. 1.)

COLUMN! RIGHT FACE! QUICK MARCH!

The whole ſtep off together; and when they have marched 20 or 30 paces, the rear grand diviſion receives the word (from the *Major* or *Adjutant)*—

REAR GRAND DIVISION!—HALT!—FRONT!

(Repeating this word of command to the ſecond, third, and fourth grand diviſions).

A Serjeant of the rear grand diviſion ſteps out to the left flank of the front diviſion, where he remains to mark the ſituation up to which the rear grand diviſion is to be marched, ſo ſoon as the other grand diviſions have cleared its right. The Officers on the right of grand diviſions give the word of command for each to *march*, and thoſe on the left *halt* and *dreſs* them by the camp colour on the right flank. The former aſſiſt in the dreſſing; and, when finiſhed, the latter ſhift to the right of their reſpective companies. The rear grand diviſion being the ſtanding one, the others are marched up and dreſſed by it.

The battalion will fire once by grand diviſions from left to right.

N. B.

N. B. In firing by grand diviſions, three pauſes muſt be made betwixt the *Fire* of each grand diviſion, and the *Make Ready* of the ſucceeding one. The firſt and ſecond Officers paying proper attention to this, the others can hardly fail in aſcertaining the time. The greateſt care is to be taken by the Officers, particularly thoſe in the rear (whoſe principal attention this is), that the rear ranks are well locked up in the firings, and that in loading they do not fall back. The battalion guns are conſidered as diviſions, and will fire as a part of the battalion, according to the directions given. Officers commanding diviſions, on the cloſe of the Preparative, ſtep out one pace in front, facing to the left, and remain there until it is their turn to fire. On the finiſhing of the GENERAL, they ſtep back into their former places. During the firing by grand diviſions, the Officers of the left diviſions fall into the rear.

N°. II.

Close Column in front of the left Company.

Caution!—The battalion will form cloſe column of companies in front of the left company—(A—No. 2.)

REMAINING COMPANIES! LEFT FACE!—QUICK MARCH!

This is done in a ſimilar manner with the preceding. The whole face to the left, except the left company. The Officers ſhift by the rear to the heads of companies, diſengaging as in No. 1. On the word QUICK MARCH! the whole ſtep off together, a regular ſteady pace, the Officer remaining at the head of his company until it arrives on the left of the leading one, where he gives the word—*Halt! Front! Dreſs!*

Caution!—Form column of grand diviſions.

LEFT COMPANIES! LEFT FACE!

This is performed as in No. 1. (B). It will alſo cloſe to the front, as in No. 1. (C).

MARCH!

Caution!

Caution!—The column will take ground to the left, and on the march deploy on the front grand diviſion—(B—No. 2.)

COLUMN! LEFT FACE!—QUICK-MARCH!

The grand diviſions are halted and fronted by the Commanding Officer, who gives the word—FRONT! GRAND DIVISION! HALT! FRONT! which is repeated by him to the ſecond, third, and fourth grand diviſions. The rear ones, when diſengaged from thoſe in their front, are *marched* into line by the Officers in the left flank, but *halted* and *dreſſed* by thoſe on the right. The former then ſhift to the right of their companies.

The battalion fires once by grand diviſions from left to right.

N°. III.

Close Column on a Central Company, facing to the Rear.

Caution!—The battalion will form cloſe column of companies on the right centre company, left in front, facing to the rear—(C—No. 2.)

RIGHT CENTRE COMPANY! RIGHT FACE! BY THE RIGHT COUNTERMARCH! QUICK MARCH!— The covering Serjeant of the right centre company moves to the other flank, faces to the right about, and ſtands faſt, his Officer leading the company; and when it has countermarched, and the men are well covered, the Officer gives the word—*Halt! Front! Dreſs!*—On this company the others form.

REMAINING COMPANIES! OUTWARDS FACE! TO THE LEFT COUNTERMARCH! QUICK MARCH!—(C—No. 2.)— The Officers of each company on the right (and which form in the rear of the fourth company) continue marching at the head of their companies until they have covered thoſe formed before them, and then *halt*, *front*, and *dreſs* them. The Officers of the left companies march at the head of their companies until they arrive on the right of thoſe formed before them: they then ſtep

out

out one pace to the right, and face to the left; and when the right of their company has covered, they give the word—*Halt! Front! Dreſs!* remaining upon the right, which is the pivot.

Caution!—The column will advance.

ORDINARY TIME! MARCH!

When halted, they may be ordered *to fire one round of ſtreet-firing*. The diviſions then fire ſucceſſively from the front of the column to the rear, each diviſion-Officer giving the word (inſtantly after firing)—*Recover* (or ſhoulder) *Arms! Outwards Face!*— On this the diviſion faces outwards from its centre, and receives the word—*Quick March!*—upon which they file off by the flanks of the column to the rear, and form up by files inwardly upon the right and left of the leading files, ſo that each may again occupy its previous ſituation; and how ſoon they are formed up, each diviſion will receive from its own Officer, the word—*Load!*

Caution!—The column will deploy on the left centre company (or fifth diviſion).—(D—No. 2.)

The named company ſtands faſt; the others receive the word—

REMAINING COMPANIES! OUTWARD FACE! QUICK MARCH! —and as ſoon as thoſe in the front and rear are clear of it, the Officer commanding *that* company gives the word—*March!* and *halts* and *dreſſes* it on his covering Serjeant, who had previouſly ſtept out in front of the column, to mark the new point of formation for the line. The other companies are *halted* and *fronted* when clear of each other, and are *marched*, *halted*, and *dreſſed* in line by their own Officers. Thoſe on the front diviſions head their companies until they reach the left flank of thoſe fronted before them, where they remain faced towards them until their rear files come up; on which they halt them, and, when marched up, *halt* and *dreſs* them from the ſecond file on the left of the diviſions formed upon: thoſe on the rear diviſions do the ſame, with this difference, that after dreſſing (which is done from the ſecond file from the right of the diviſion formed on) they go round by the rear to the right flank of their diviſion.

The companies may be ordered to fire one round as they form up.

N°. IV.

Countermarch of the Battalion on its Centre by Companies or Subdivisions.

THE intention of this manœuvre is to bring back the battalion to its original poſition.

Caution!—The battalion will countermarch by companies on its centre.—(A—No. 3.)

On this caution [the colours may countermarch, and face to the intended front], one of the wings is ordered to face to the right about; both wings are then wheeled inward, by companies or ſubdiviſions. If the right wing, the command is given—

RIGHT WING! RIGHT ABOUT FACE!

After having faced, the battalion receives the word—

BY COMPANIES! TO THE RIGHT (or inward) WHEEL!

If the left wing is faced about, the companies are wheeled to the left. The Officers, during the wheel, incline and come towards the right flank of their companies. Upon this, the companies complete the quarter wheel to the right. The centre companies take three, or the neceſſary number of paces, to the left by the ſide ſtep, in order to diſengage them from the colours (or centre). The diviſions then receive the word—

ORDINARY TIME! MARCH!

They then march along the rear and front of the colours, which have countermarched to the intended front, and ſucceſſively wheel up into their reſpective places on each ſide of thoſe already arranged in the line. As they come up to the outward flank upon which they are to form, each company or diviſion receives from its Officer the word—*Right Wheel!* The wing that was faced about to the right, previous to the countermarch of the companies, receives, when into the line, each from its own Officer, the word—*Halt!—Front!—Dreſs!* and after dreſſing their companies go round to their proper pivot. The companies of the left wing, being already in their proper front, receive the word—*Halt!—Dreſs!* The battalion may advance, and fire once from centre to flanks.

Another

Another manner of performing the countermarch upon the centre may be performed by files: but as all file-marching unavoidably tends to the extenſion of the line, as well as delay and irregularity in cloſing up, the above is preferable.

N°. V.

Change of Position in Open Column.

(B—N°. 3.)

Caution!—Companies! On your Left Backward Wheel!—(C—No. 3.)

MARCH!

The companies break into open column, as already deſcribed in page 7.

The Commanding Officer then gives the

Caution!—The column will move forward, and, on the march, change its direction to the left. (D—No. 3.)

The Adjutant places two camp colours in an oblique direction to the left; the neareſt is the one where the leading company takes the new direction; the Officer of which, and the ſucceeding ones, give the word—*Right Shoulders forward!*—which brings them into the new aligniment by a half wheel. On three or four companies having wheeled into it (the laſt about four paces into the new direction), the Commanding Officer gives the word—

HALT!

On which the whole column ſtands faſt.

Caution!—Rear companies will file into the new aligniment. (C—No. 3.)

Upon this caution, the covering Serjeant of the rear companies ſteps out and takes the diſtance and direction of the front companies: theſe companies then receive the word—

REAR COMPANIES! TO THE RIGHT FACE!

They then face to the right; the Officers ſhifting to their heads.

QUICK MARCH!

The

The Officers lead them to their reſpective Serjeants; they then ſtep out one pace to the left, and face to the right, where they remain until the rear of the company arrives on the left of the Serjeant: they then give the word—*Halt!—Front!—Dreſs!*

The column is then ordered—

LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE! (D D—No. 3.)

QUICK MARCH!

This is performed as in p. 11; every company being dreſſed by the camp colours on the left of the battalion.

The battalion may then fire once from flanks to centre.

N°. VI.

Wing thrown back.

Caution!—The left company will wheel back four paces on the left (E—No. 3.); *and the remaining companies go to the right about, and wheel two paces to the right.*—(F—No. 3.)

N. B. The covering Serjeant places himſelf before, or behind, a given file (generally the 8th), from the ſtanding flank, taking the named number of wheeling paces, thereby becoming a direction for the company to wheel up (or back) to; and when wheeling backward, as ſoon as the company reaches the Serjeant, in a low tone of voice he *halts* it.

LEFT COMPANY! FOUR PACES ON THE LEFT BACKWARD WHEEL!—(E—No. 3.)

QUICK MARCH!

When it has wheeled into the new line, the Officer gives the word—*Dreſs!* and then ſhifts to the right of his company.

REMAINING COMPANIES! RIGHT ABOUT FACE!

The Officers ſhift to the front rank.

COMPANIES! TWO PACES TO THE RIGHT WHEEL!

Upon this, the covering Serjeant marks the diſtance (from the 8th file); the Officers ſhift to the right of companies; the Serjeants march the given number of paces, and then make a quarter face to the right; the pivot man alſo faces at the ſame time; and on the word—

QUICK

QUICK MARCH!

The companies wheel, and are *halted* and *dreſſed* by their own Officers.

Caution!—The companies (F—No. 3.) *will march in echellon to form line on the left company.*—(E—No. 3.)

N. B. In echellon march, Officers muſt always remember to *halt* their companies, when forming line, at leaſt two paces beyond the new aligniment; as it is much eaſier to *dreſs* them forward, than if marched up, and, when halted, obliged to ſhuffle backward for ſome time: beſides, it prevents the next diviſion halting till the firſt is dreſſed.

ORDINARY TIME! MARCH!

The whole ſtep off together. On the ſecond company reaching the ſtanding one, it is *halted* and *fronted* by its Officer, having previouſly ſtepped forward three files within the latter, and dreſſing back his own by the camp colours on the right flank of the new line, after which he moves to the right by the rear: while dreſſing, the men turn their eyes to the Officer on the left. The Officers of the other companies form theirs in the ſame manner. As ſoon as the third company has formed, the battalion may *fire once by companies from left to right.*

As ſome of the companies, during the march, will not always preſerve the parallel direction to the left company, the Officer will give the word—*Right* (or Left) *Shoulders forward!* and when it has got into the parallel—*Forward!* Should it be neceſſary for the ſubſequent movements, the line may retire 50 or 60 paces, and then front*.

N°. VII.

Echellon Change of Position.

Caution!—The battalion will break into open column of companies, right in front. (A A—No. 4.)

* His Majeſty's Rules, p. 321.

COMPANIES! ON YOUR LEFT BACKWARD WHEEL!
QUICK MARCH!

N. B. As an oblique aligniment is wanted, the right centre company is wheeled backwards four paces. A *Caution* is given—

The right centre company will wheel four paces, the remaining companies ſix paces, on the right backward. (A A—No. 4.)

QUICK MARCH!

The word *Halt!* is given (in a low tone of voice) by the Serjeant, who has previouſly taken the ordered number of paces (from the 8th file), and made a half face to the pivot flank; the Officer then *halting* and *dreſſing* them. The leading companies then receive the word—*Leading* (or Right) *Companies! Right about Face!*

Caution!—March in echellon, to form line on the right centre company.—(B B—No. 4.)

MARCH!

The right centre company remains halted; the leading (or right) companies are *halted*, *fronted*, and *dreſſed* by their reſpective Officers as they come up; the left, being already in its proper front, is *halted* and *dreſſed* as they come up. In marching in echellon, the Officers are on the inward flanks of their companies, but ſhift to the right as ſoon as they have halted and dreſſed them.

The battalion will fire from centre to flanks.

N°. VIII.

A new Line taken up by the Echellon Movement.

This brings back the battalion to its original front.

Caution!—The right company will wheel four paces, and the remaining companies two paces, to the right.

Upon this caution being given, each covering Serjeant takes the ordered number of paces, making a face to the right, in line with his pivot.

The

The Commanding Officer then gives the word—

QUICK MARCH!

Upon this, the companies wheel up to the Serjeants, and are *halted* and *dreſſed* by their Officers.

RIGHT ABOUT FACE!

A *Caution* is then given—

Remaining companies, march in echellon, and form line on the right company.—(D—No. 4.)

On the word—

ORDINARY TIME! MARCH!

The whole ſtep off together. As each company arrives at the new line, it is *halted*, *fronted*, and *dreſſed*, from the ſecond left hand file of the company formed upon, in a line with the camp colours upon the left flank. As ſoon as the ſecond or third company has formed, the companies may *fire regularly from right to left.* The battalion may advance 50 or 60 paces, *and fire from centre to flanks.*

N°. IX.

Retreat in Line.

Caution!—The battalion will retire.

RIGHT ABOUT FACE!—MARCH!—HALT!—FRONT!

N. B. Upon facing to the right about, the Officers may go to the front ranks*.

The battalion may again be cautioned to *fire by alternate companies, and retire.*

FIRE BY ALTERNATE COMPANIES, AND RETIRE!

Upon this the Officers fall into the rear.

RIGHT COMPANIES! MAKE READY! &c.

After firing—*Shoulder Arms!*

RIGHT COMPANIES! RIGHT ABOUT FACE!

MARCH!—HALT!—FRONT!—LOAD!

* This, however, *ad libitum;* ſeveral General Officers of conſiderable experience practiſe the Retreat in Line with the Officers in the rear, which ren ers ſhifting and re-ſhifting unneceſſary.

The

The Commanding Officer *fires* the alternate companies: in the caſe of his taking charge of the right companies, the next in command *fires*, and takes charge of the left companies. In marching the right companies to the rear, they dreſs by the King's colour on their right, which marches with them: a Serjeant is advanced ſix paces in front to lead the march. The left companies, in marching to the rear, dreſs by the regimental colour on their left; and a Serjeant, advanced in front, leads them.

LEFT COMPANIES! MAKE READY! &c.

After firing—*Shoulder!* and receive the word—

RIGHT ABOUT FACE!—MARCH!

And are halted and fronted when in line with the right companies, and receive the word—

LOAD!

N°. X.

Hollow Square.

Caution!—The battalion will form a ſquare on the two centre companies.—(E E—No. 4.)

Upon this caution, the colours and reſerve fall back a few paces, and the centre companies cloſe by the ſide ſtep.

INWARD FACE!

The whole face inward (except the 4th and 5th companies); the Officer of each right company ſhifts to its head; each diviſion diſengage 3 files; the covering Serjeants of the 2d and 3d, and 6th and 7th, companies ſtep out, and take diſtance for open column in rear of the 4th and 5th; thoſe of the 1ſt and 8th at one pace diſtance in the rear of the 2d and 7th; the Grenadier and Light Infantry in rear of the 1ſt and 8th. On the word—

QUICK MARCH!

The whole ſtep off together: the Officer leading until he arrive at his Serjeant, where he faces his company, and remains until its rear arrive oppoſite to him; he then gives the word—*Halt!—Front!—Dreſs!*

The

The Commanding Officer then gives the word—

OUTWARD WHEEL, AND FORM SQUARE!—(F—No. 4.)

The Officers of the 2d and 3d, and 6th and 7th, ſtep out in front of their centre; the 1ſt and 8th companies face to the right, the Officers ſhifting to their heads; and, on the word—

QUICK MARCH!

They ſtep off, and are *halted* and *dreſſed* by their Officer: thoſe of the 2d and 3d incline, during the march, to the left, and after they have *halted* and *dreſſed* their companies, ſhift to the right; thoſe of the 6th and 7th incline to the right, and remain there; the 1ſt and 8th face to the right, and countermarch to the right. During the countermarch, the Grenadiers, Field Officers, Staff, Pioneers, Muſic, and Light Infantry, march into the ſquare, and take poſt*. When the countermarch is completed, each Officer will give the word—*Halt!—Front!—Dreſs!* (The guns may be marched into the ſquare, and ſhifted wherever they may be wanted.)

The ſquare is then formed, *and may fire once by companies from the right of faces, beginning at the front face.* The Officers fall in the rear upon the Preparative.

Caution!—The ſquare will reduce.—(A A—No. 5.)

On this caution, the centre companies open to the right and left; the colours and reſerve move into line. The Commanding Officer then gives the word—

ON YOUR RIGHT AND LEFT BACKWARD WHEEL!

The Officers advance to the centre of companies.

QUICK MARCH!

The 2d, 3d, 6th, and 7th companies wheel backward, and are *halted* and *dreſſed* by their Officers; the 1ſt and 8th and Light Infantry face and countermarch to the right: the Grenadiers remain. If it is meant that the ſquare ſhould march by any face, the colours move behind that face; the ſide diviſions wheel backward; and the oppoſite face comes to the right about. When marching in open column, they muſt be careful to preſerve the proper diſtances, dreſſing by each other on the right and left. When *halted*, and ordered to *form ſquare*, the diviſions wheel up, and the face which came to the right about reſumes its proper front: upon this being per-

* His Majeſty's Rules and Regulations of 1792, ſect. 178, p. 302.

formed,

formed, the rear files of the diviſions may *fire independently from the right of faces;* the front rank comes to the *Charge*, and remains in that poſition during the rear rank's firing; after which the front rank *Recovers*, and *fires a volley.*

When the ſquare is reduced into open column, as has been above deſcribed, they receive the

Caution!—The column will cloſe to the front.—(B B—No. 5.)

ORDINARY TIME! MARCH!

They are halted and dreſſed by their reſpective Officers.

Caution!—The column will face outward, and form line on the two centre companies.—(C C—No. 5.)

OUTWARD FACE!

The whole face outward.

QUICK MARCH!

As ſoon as the companies clear each other, they are *halted* and *fronted* by their own Officers, and march into line as before directed.

The battalion will fire from centre to flanks.

N°. XI.

Retiring in Line, and Filing to the Rear.

The battalion receives the

Caution!—The line will retire.

On which the directing Serjeants face about, and move 6 paces beyond the rear rank, and halt. The battalion is then ordered—

RIGHT ABOUT FACE!

And afterwards—

MARCH!

(The Light Company moves quickly round by the flanks, and forms in the rear, extending ſo as to cover during the retreat at about 50 paces diſtance.)

After the battalion has marched 30 or 40 paces, it receives the

Caution!—The battalion will, from the proper right of companies, file to the rear.—(D—No. 5.)

At the word of command—

PASS COMPANIES BY FILES!

The Officers commanding them give the word—*Left Turn! Quick March!* Upon this the Officers commanding them turn quickly to the left with the leading file, the reſt following in ſucceſſion. The heads of companies muſt obſerve the proper diſtance from each other, and dreſs ſo that the line may not be broken, or uneven, when ordered to form. (The ſame rule to be obſerved in paſſing companies to the front.)

The Commanding Officer orders the whole to

HALT!—FRONT!

The battalion now ſtands in open column, right in front. The companies then receive the word—

LEFT WHEEL, AND FORM LINE!

QUICK MARCH!—(E E—No. 5.)

The companies are then halted and dreſſed by their reſpective Officers.

N°. XII.

Advancing in Line, Filing, and Charging to the Front, &c.

Caution!—The line will advance.

MARCH*!

After the line has advanced 50 paces, the Commanding Officer gives the

Caution!—The battalion will file from the right of companies.

PASS TO THE FRONT!

(The reverſe of D—No. 5.) Upon which the Officer of each company gives the word—*Right Turn!—Quick March!* taking care, upon the march, to obſerve the proper diſtance from each other, and dreſſing in line. The Commanding Officer gives the word—

HALT!—FRONT!

* For the Light Infantry movements in this manœuvre, ſee Reid's Treatiſe.

The

The companies ſtand in open column, the left in front. After dreſſing the pivots, they receive the word—

RIGHT WHEEL, AND FORM LINE!

Caution!—The battalion will advance, and fire by wings obliquely (to the centre, or oppoſite flanks).

MARCH!

After marching about 25 paces, the battalion is ordered to

HALT!

RIGHT WING, OBLIQUE TO THE LEFT!—READY!—'PSENT!

FIRE!

After the right wing is loaded and ſhouldered, the left is fired oblique to the right; and after being *loaded* and *ſhouldered*, the battalion is *cautioned* to advance (about 50 paces), and, when halted, *to fire a volley, and port arms.*

QUICK MARCH!

After having moved forward 20 paces, the front rank, upon the word—CHARGE!—charges bayonets: the rear rank remains at the *Port.* After being halted, the battalion is then ordered to—

SHOULDER ARMS!——and, PRIME AND LOAD!

The battalion is then *cautioned—To retire in line (or by wings).*

RIGHT ABOUT FACE!—MARCH!

Retiring 30 paces, when the Commanding Officer gives the word—

HALT!—FRONT!

The battalion then *fires;* and, in the caſe of retiring by wings, when the right wing is *halted, the left one fires;* and when the left wing has retired, and on a line with the right, and fronted, the right is then ordered to—

MAKE READY! &c.

The colours are divided upon advancing or retreating by wings, as expreſſed in page 24.

Caution!—The battalion will advance.

MARCH!—HALT!

Caution!—Fire two volleys to the front, and, after the laſt, port arms and half cock.

BATTALION! READY!—'PSENT!—FIRE!

After which—

HALF COCK ARMS!—SHOULDER ARMS!—SHUT PANS!

The

The Field Officers now dismount. The Adjutant will see the line well dressed for taking open order. The Commanding Officer gives the word—

REAR RANKS! TAKE OPEN ORDER!

MARCH!

As in pages 5 and 11: the Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel, advancing through the centre interval, take post as in page 8.

THE BATTALION WILL ADVANCE IN OPEN ORDER!

MARCH!

The whole step off (without music), and, when within 50 paces of the General, the word—HALT! is given.

PRESENT ARMS!

The men present, and Officers salute, as in page 6.

SHOULDER ARMS!

REAR RANKS! TAKE CLOSE ORDER!

MARCH!

As in page 6. The Lieutenant-Colonel then mounts in the rear. The Commanding Officer advances to the General, to know if he has any further commands for the battalion; if not, he mounts, and gives the

Caution!—The battalion will break into open column of subdivisions (or sections), right (or left) in front.

BY SUBDIVISIONS (or Sections), ON YOUR RIGHT (or Left) BACKWARD WHEEL!

MARCH!

As in page 7. The whole take post as in the marching off the parade.

MARCH!

(Without music.) When the battalion has marched off the parade, it may be halted, arms supported, and time changed; thus they march to their parade, where they receive the word—

CARRY ARMS!

RIGHT (or Left) WHEEL, AND FORM LINE!

Open Order is again taken.

The colours are attended by a guard of the right company to the place where they are to be lodged; and, during the time of their passing the front of the battalion, the battalion presents arms, and the Officers salute the colours as they pass. The Commanding Officer then gives the word—

SHOULDER ARMS!

And cloſes ranks (as before); then—

ORDER ARMS!

UNFIX BAYONETS!

(When the men unfix, the Officers ſheath their ſwords.) Then

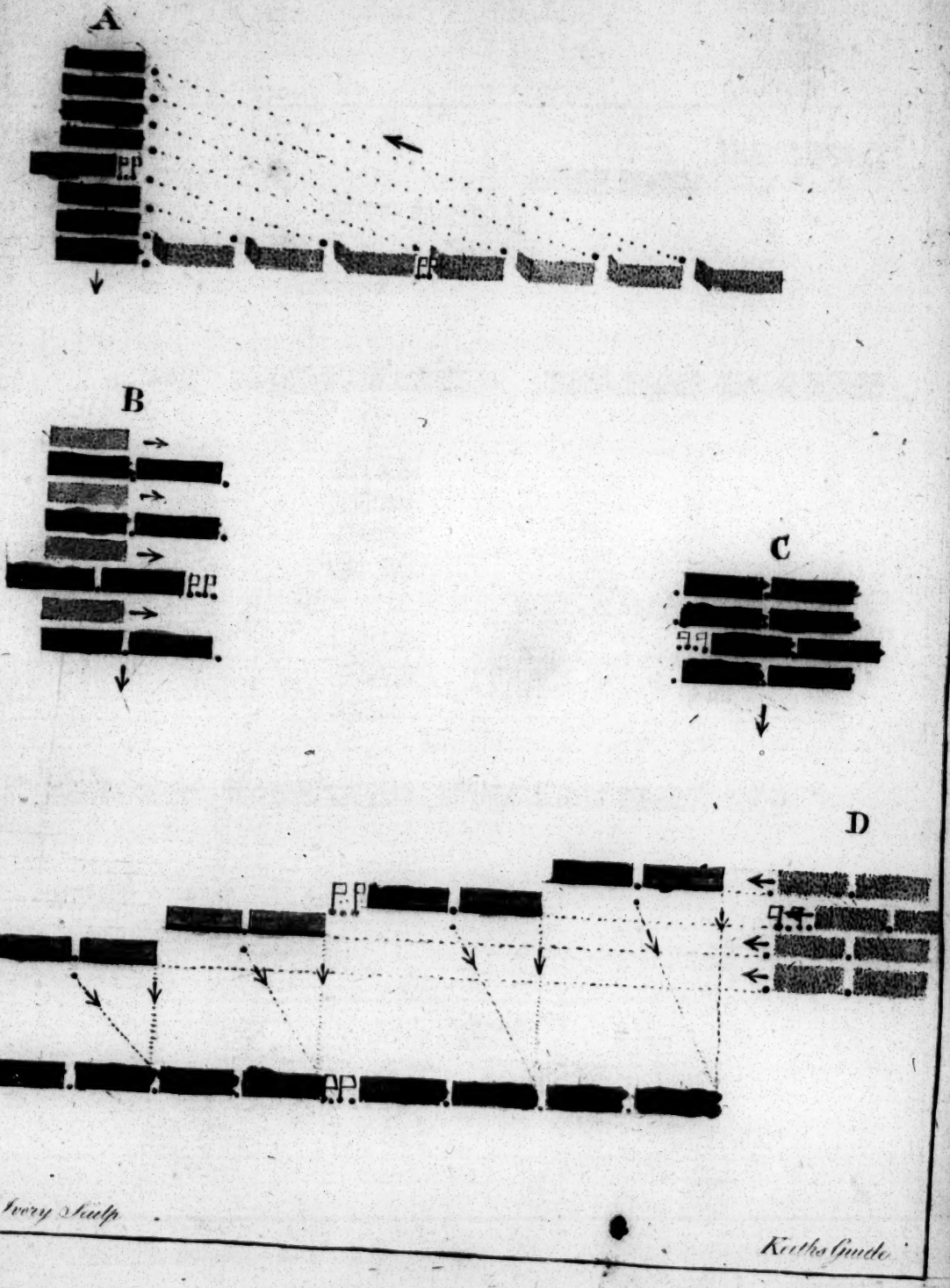
SHOULDER ARMS!

The Commanding Officer then makes the ſignal for the Officers to fall out of the ranks: and this concludes the review.

N. B. The number of paces mentioned in the ſeveral movements are not poſitively preſcribed; they muſt be determined, in a great meaſure, by the ground on which the battalion is reviewed: yet, if the ground allows the marches in front and rear to be longer, it will be ſo much the better.

Yellow – The Position moved from –
Blue – Intermediate –
Red – The Manouvre compleat –
→ ..... Direction of the movement –

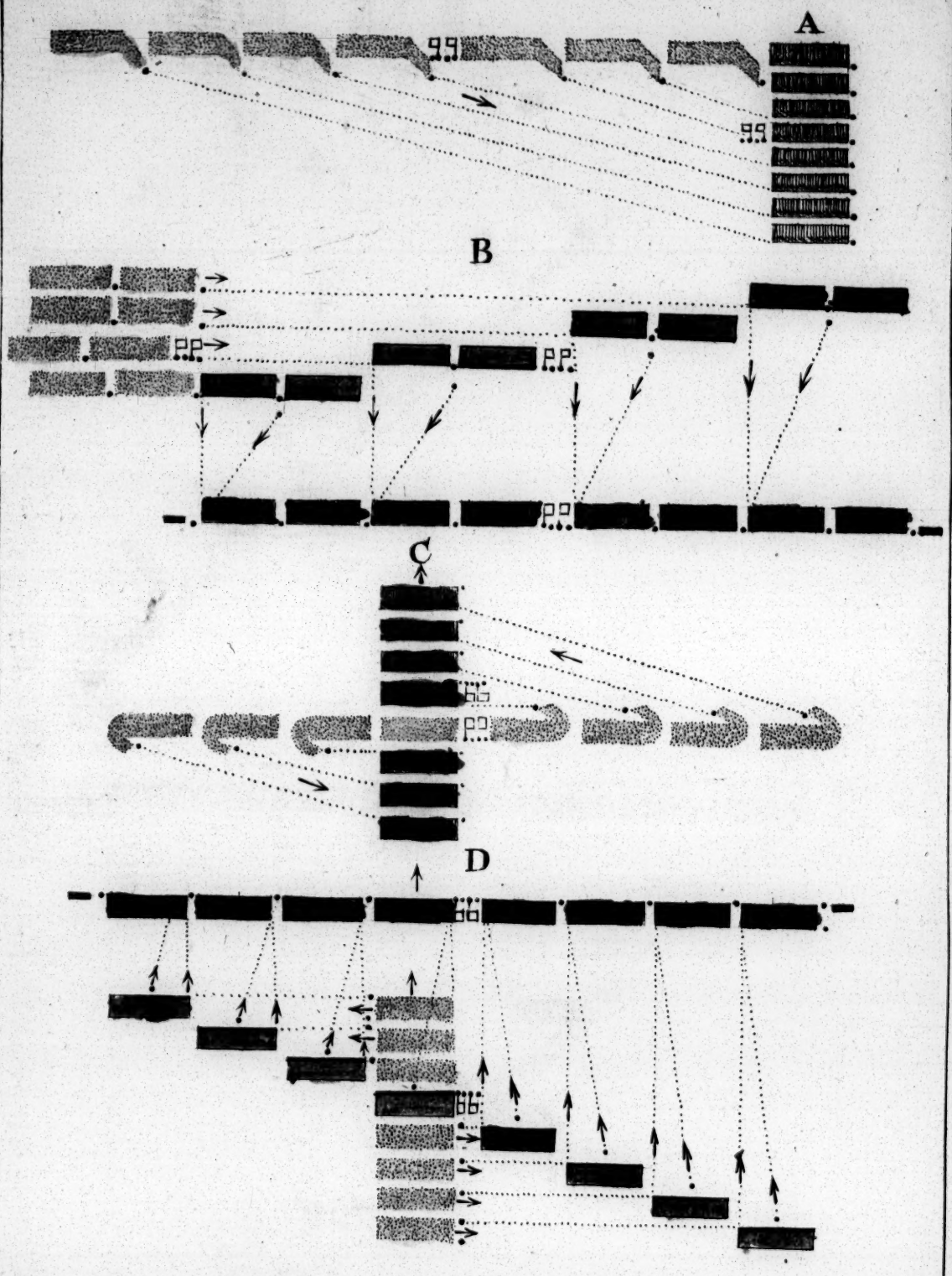
Nº 1



Ivory Sculp

Kitchin Guide

No. 2



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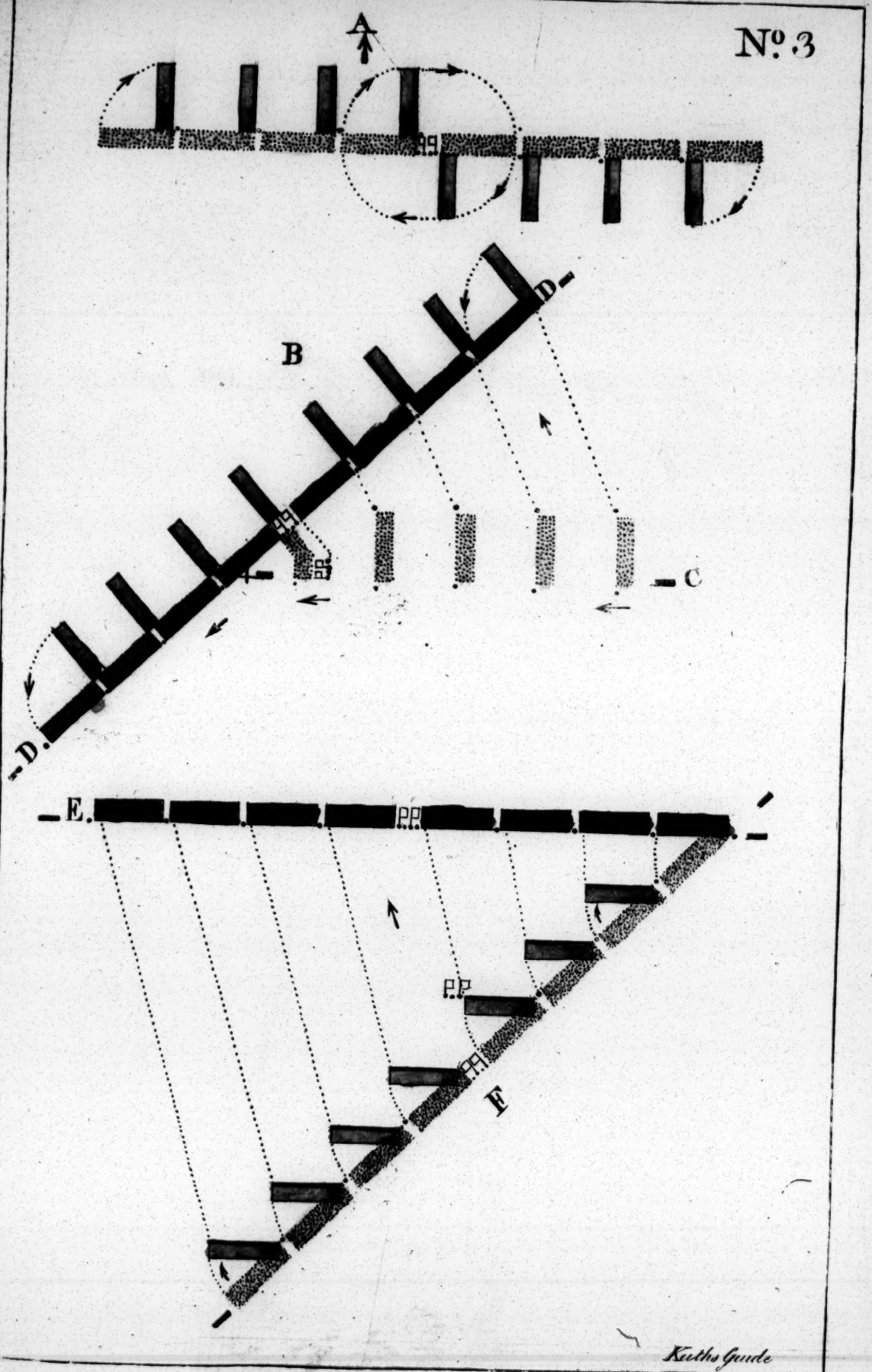
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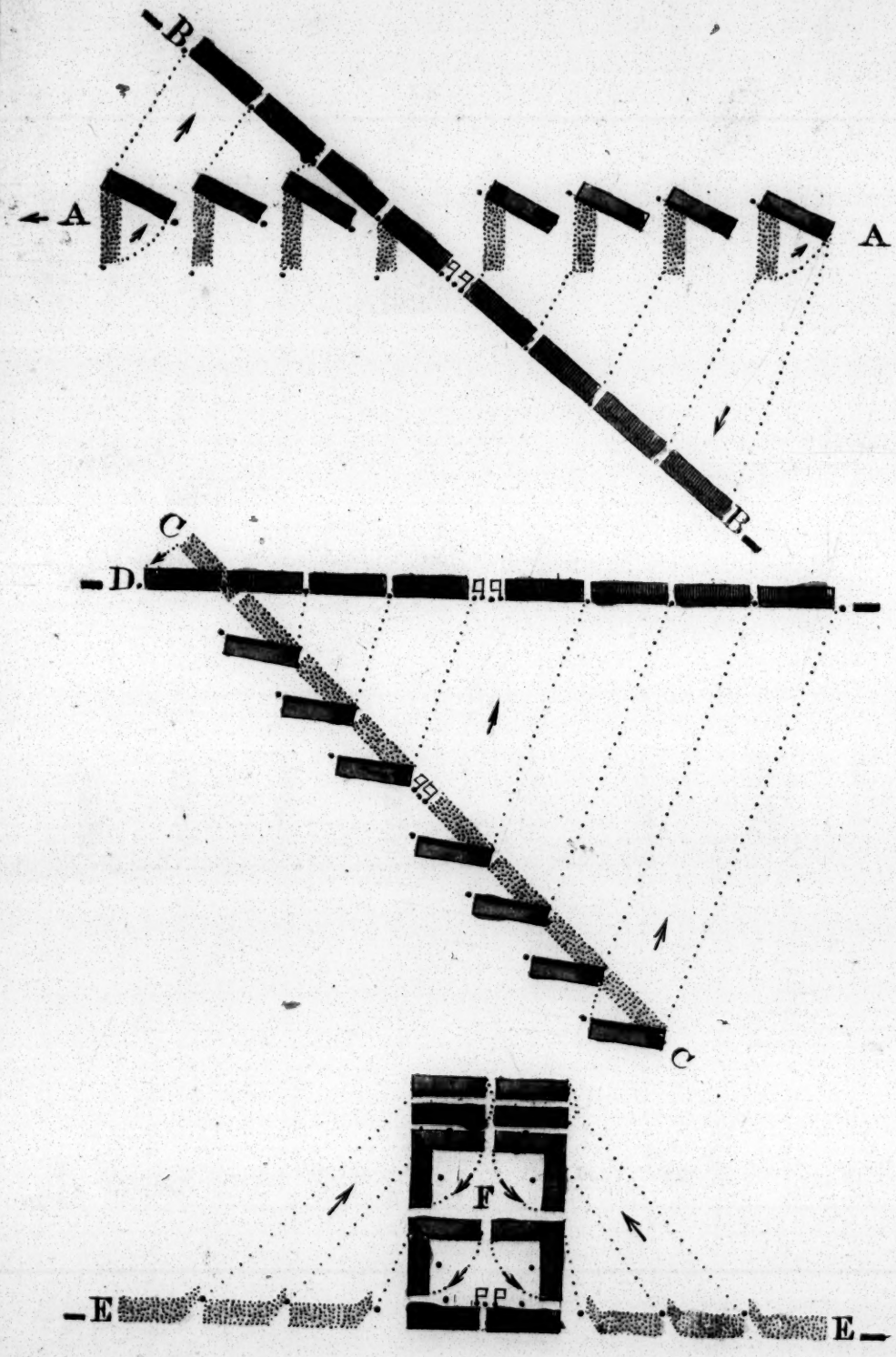

Keiths Guide

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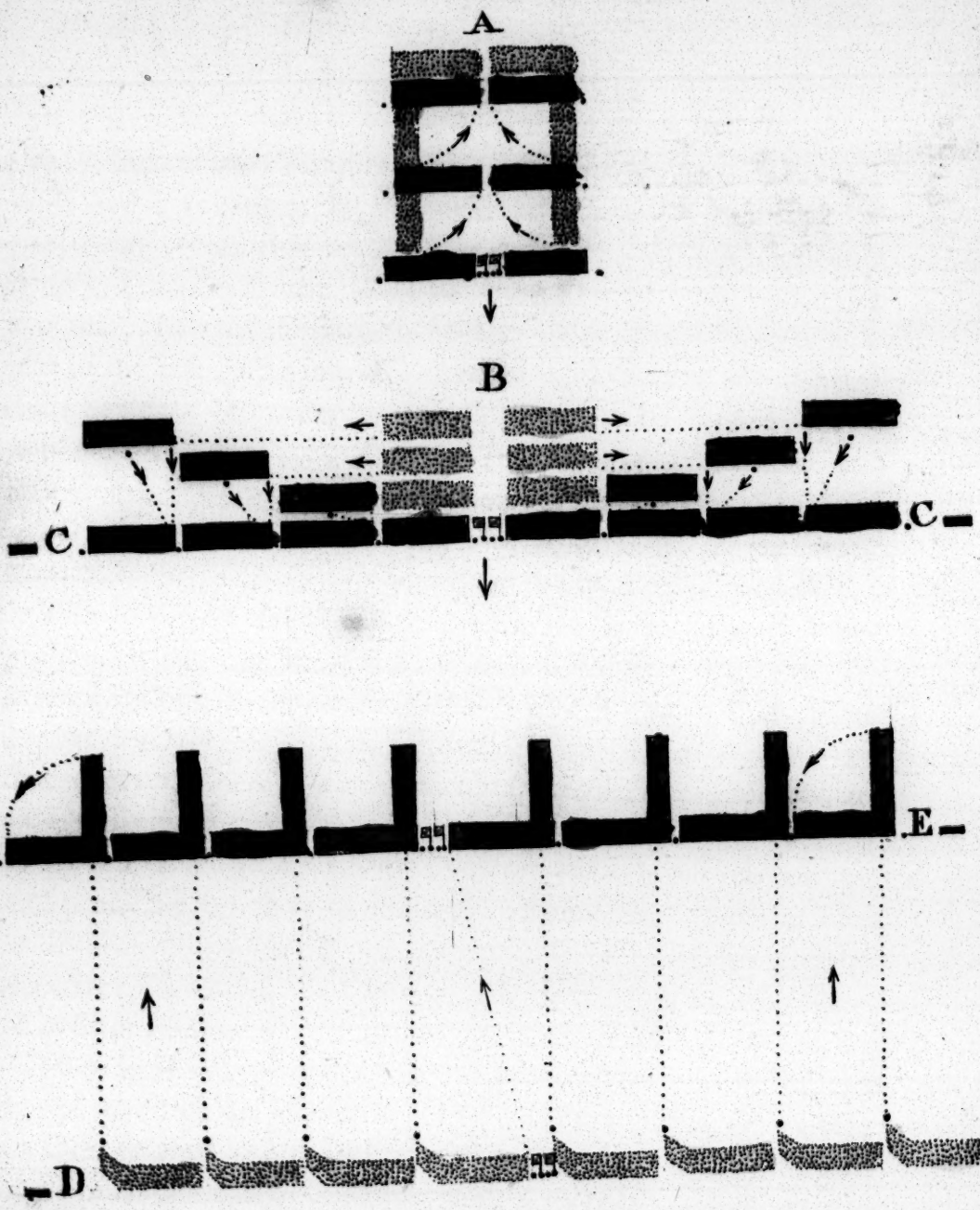
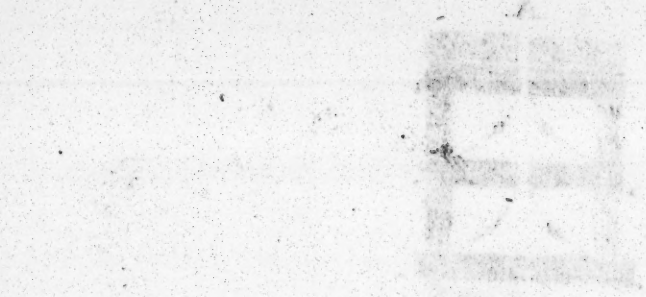


Keiths Guide



APPENDIX,

Principally extracted from the "Rules and Regulations publiſhed by Authority," and offered to the particular Attention of Volunteer Officers.

AS Officers of Volunteer Corps have not, from their various ſituations in buſineſs, leiſure or opportunity of conſulting works that require much ſtudy in military ſcience, Reid's Treatiſe on the Duty of Infantry Officers, upon the preſent Syſtem of the Britiſh Military Diſcipline (from which part of the following extracts are taken), is particularly worthy their peruſal. In order to enable them, under theſe circumſtances, to know their duty in the ſeveral formations laid down, every particular has been attended to in the preceding pages, that may tend to their performing them (by moderate ſtudy and practice) with ſufficient accuracy and correctneſs.

The examples ſelected are ſuch as (it is preſumed) comprehend what may be conſidered beſt ſuited to the nature and limited extent of ſervice expected to be performed by corps of that deſcription. In this ſituation, however, it is neceſſary that every Officer (as far as poſſible) ſhould be inſtructed in each individual circumſtance required of a recruit or ſoldier; and accuſtomed to give words of command with that energy and preciſion which is ſo eſſential. From the number of files in diviſion, they ſhould learn accurately to judge the ground neceſſary for each, and to extend that knowledge to the front of greater bodies.

They muſt acquire the habit of readily aſcertaining by the eye perpendiculars of march, and the ſquareneſs of the wheel: an Officer muſt not only know the poſt which he ſhould occupy in all changes of ſituation, the commands which he ſhould give, and the general intention of the required movement, but he ſhould be maſter of the principles on which each is made, and of the faults that may be committed, in order to avoid them himſelf, and to inſtruct others, Theſe principles are in themſelves

ſelves ſo ſimple, that moderate reflection and attention will ſoon ſhow them to the eye, and fix them in the mind. In the progreſſive ſituations at which he arrives, his exertion ſhould be unremitting to qualify himſelf for them. The neceſſity of order, ſteadineſs, and ſilence, and of executing every thing deliberately and without hurry, ſhould be ſtrongly inculcated on the ſoldier, and in volunteer corps is particularly neceſſary.

All words of command, and particularly the words *halt* and *march*, muſt be given *ſhort*, *quick*, and *loud;* ſo as to be caught and repeated from right to left of a line, or from front to rear of a column, in the ſhorteſt time poſſible: even to the ſmalleſt bodies, the word of command ought to be given in the full extent of voice, and in a ſharp tone. The juſtneſs of execution, and the confidence of the ſoldier, can only be in proportion to the firm, decided, and proper manner in which every Officer of rank gives his orders. An Officer who cannot thoroughly diſcipline and exerciſe the body intruſted to his command, is not fit, in time of ſervice, to lead it to the enemy; he cannot be cool and collected in the time of danger. It is not ſufficient to advance with bravery; it is requiſite to have that degree of intelligence which ſhould diſtinguiſh every Officer according to his ſtation: and when a ſoldier has reliance on the capacity of thoſe who conduct him, he will act with ſpirit and animation.

General Remarks.]—No part of military duty is ſo eſſential as regular and uniform marching, either in ſlow or quick time; all movements depend ſo much upon it, that the greateſt attention ſhould be paid towards it*. Particular regard ſhould be paid to the men in dreſſing equally from either flank; that when the word *dreſs* is given, and the point to which they are to dreſs, the eyes be thrown that way, with a ſmall turn of the head; and that, in diviſions, they preſerve their dreſſings by the pivot man on the flank, who is anſwerable for all deviations.

The ſupernumerary rank ſhould alſo pay great attention in keeping up the rear ranks cloſe to the front.

* See Reid's Treatiſe, p. 127—131.

Wheelings.

Wheelings.]—Great care muſt be taken, in wheeling, that the men incline more toward the pivot than to the other flank; and that they feel inward to it, and look outward (except the wheeling flank man who looks inward). In wheeling by files, particular attention muſt be paid that no ground be loſt, but that the pivot men of each file ſucceſſively turn ſhort round, while the coverers in the rear ranks take large ſteps to preſerve a proper ſituation.

All extenſion of files in marching or countermarching, by diviſions or battalion, ought to be carefully avoided, as it greatly retards the ſucceeding operations.

The following rules for wheeling, taken from the "Rules and Regulations publiſhed by Authority," are highly uſeful for aſcertaining given diſtances. As the circumference of the quarter circle, which a diviſion deſcribes on its wheel, is one half more (nearly) than its front; it is neceſſary that, in open column, it ſhould, in the ſame time that it takes to march over a ſpace equal to the extent of its front, not only complete the whole of the quarter circle, but be enabled to move on at its juſt diſtance from its preceding diviſion, and not ſtop that which ſucceeds it. The whole muſt be quickened, or the ſtep lengthened (or a part of both applied), in proportion to the general march.

Number of Files in a Diviſion, each occupying 22 inches.	Front of Diviſions, in ordinary Paces of 30 inches. Paces. Inches.
Files. 5	3 20
10	7 10
12	8 24
14	10 8
15	11 9
16	11 22
18	13 6
20	14 20
30	22 0
40	29 10
50	36 20
100	76 10

A divi-

A diviſion conſiſting of 10 files, and each occupying 22 inches, takes 7 paces 10 inches for its front: now 75 ſteps in a minute being the ordinary time, and 120 the wheeling time, 75 : 120 :: $7\frac{1}{2}$: $11\frac{2}{3}$, nearly the number of wheeling paces, of 30 inches each, which the wheeling man can take, while the following diviſion is making its $7\frac{1}{3}$ ordinary paces in front, and 11 of which make exactly the quarter circle; but if each of theſe paces is lengthened 3 inches, then the wheel will be completed in 10 ſteps, and a pauſe of one pace and $\frac{2}{3}$ of a pace, or $\frac{5}{6}$ of a ſecond of time, will be reſerved for the *halt*, *dreſs*, and *march*, of the diviſion, after it has, at 10 long paces of 33 inches, completed the wheel. This pauſe will increaſe or diminiſh according to the greater or leſs extent of the wheeling body; and, in the above proportion of time and ſtep, it is $\frac{1}{7}$th of the time employed by ſuch body in wheeling the quarter circle.

This allowance, which is barely ſufficient in a diviſion of 10 files, and which cannot be well increaſed either by length of ſtep or quickneſs of time, ſhews how *pointed* and *quick* the commands muſt be, not to occaſion a loſs of ground to each ſucceſſive diviſion at the points of wheeling.

It appears, that the front of any diviſion or body occupies, in ordinary paces of 30 inches, *nearly three-fourths* of the number of files of which it is compoſed; that the circumference of the quarter circle, which it deſcribes in wheeling paces of 33 inches, is the *ſame* as the number of files; which being once aſcertained in each diviſion, the Officer commanding it muſt, on all occaſions, recollect the number of paces which the wheeling flank man muſt take to complete the quarter circle; alſo the ſpare time which he has to regulate the *halt* and *march* of his diviſion after wheeling, which, when in open column, if not attentively performed, will occaſion on the march an irregular length of ſtep, and extent of diviſion.

N. B. All wheelings are made in quick time.

Wheeling paces required to deſcribe	the 6th	of the circle, or angle of	60°	are	$\frac{2}{3}$	of the number of files of which the front conſiſts.
	— 8th		45°	—	$\frac{1}{2}$	
	— 16th		$22\frac{1}{2}$°	—	$\frac{1}{4}$	
	— 32d		$11\frac{1}{4}$°	—	$\frac{1}{8}$	

As

As has already been obſerved, every Officer ſhould be particularly attentive that the marches are made with accuracy at the required times and length of ſtep, and on ſuch objects as are given in column and echellon; that at all times the proper diſtances are preſerved, ſo that the formation into line may be made true, and without falſe opening, or neceſſity of correction; that the wheelings are juſt, and in the manner preſcribed, they ſhould be alert in their changes of ſituation, exact in their own perſonal movements, avoiding hurry or unneceſſary delay.

Field Exerciſe.]—Field exerciſe, which comprehends all the manœuvres a battalion can perform, and which is, in general, under the immediate inſpection of the *Major* and *Adjutant*, aſſiſted by the *Serjeant-Major* and *Drill-Serjeant*, ought to be as frequently attended as the ſeveral ſituations of the Officers will permit: and they ſhould occaſionally fall in, that they may accuſtom themſelves, upon the battalion taking a new poſition in echellon, or in forming columns, to mark the ground to which the diviſions have to wheel, and the pivot flanks of diviſions, as the Serjeants do; this will enable them to judge of diſtances, a very neceſſary thing in all manœuvres, and upon which a juſt and quick formation into line, and many other movements, depend.

Of the Firings.]—No part of field exerciſe is of more conſequence than the juſt and true firing of a battalion. The greateſt care is to be taken by the Officers that the men level well, and that the rear ranks are well locked up in the firings: theſe being well attended to (joined to a celerity in loading), will give eſſential advantages when led to actual ſervice.

N. B. *In firing by wings*, one wing will make ready the inſtant the other ſhoulders. If one wing is advancing, the *make ready*, *preſent*, *fire*, of that wing muſt inſtantly follow the *march* of the other: and, in the retreating, the *halt* of the retiring one.

If the battalion be formed two deep, both ranks will fire: but if it be in three ranks, the front and centre fire ſtanding, and the rear rank remains ſhouldered as a reſerve.

When the battalion is ordered to fire by companies in wings, the wings carry on their fire independent of each other. If there

there are four companies in a wing, three pauſes muſt intervene between the *fire* of each and the *make ready* of the ſucceeding one; and if there are five companies, two pauſes only: this allows ſufficient time for the firſt company to load, ſhoulder, and be ready as ſoon as the laſt has fired.

Firing by Grand Diviſions and Platoons.]—In firing by grand diviſions, 3 pauſes muſt be made betwixt the firing of each diviſion, and the *make ready* of the ſucceeding one.

In general, after the *march* in front, and *halt* of the battalion, company, or platoon, firing ſhould begin from the centre, and not from the flanks: in other caſes, and in ſucceſſive formation, it may begin from whatever diviſion firſt arrives and halts on its ground.

File-Firing, whether by companies or by battalion, is done from the right; each file preſenting and firing in rotation; the rear rank (when not ordered to keep ſhouldered as a reſerve) taking the time from thoſe in front. File-firing is ſometimes uſed on rejoicing days, when it gets the name of a *feu de joie.*

The words of command are now ſhortened in the pronunciation, as, for inſtance, *'Toon* (or diviſion), *Ready*, *'Pſent*, *Fire.* In firings, the Officers ſhould be animated and exact in their commands.

Attention of the non-commiſſioned Officer.]—Thoſe who have the charge of drill ought to be ſtrictly attentive to the inſtruction of the recruit upon the principles laid down and agreeable to the manual and platoon exerciſe, ordered by authority to be practiſed.—See the copy publiſhed in 1792.

They ſhould pay every attention in correcting, and making them repeat the ſeveral motions, until they perform them with exactneſs and promptitude; and frequently to impreſs them with the abſolute neceſſity of order and ſteadineſs, without which nothing will appear to be, nor can be well executed. They muſt alſo (as has already been obſerved) be careful in their inſtruction in the great and neceſſary point of marching: the due time and length of ſtep muſt be ſtrongly impreſſed until the proper cadence of pace become habitual. Every juſt movement depends upon the correct equality of march: when this is not attended to, diſunion and confuſion muſt neceſſarily follow.

follow. The time, or meaſure, may be impreſſed on the men's ears by 5 or 6 taps of a drum, regulated by a plummet of the following ſeveral lengths:

		Inch.	Hun.
Ordinary time, - - - - - - - 75	ſteps in a minute,	24	96
Quick time, - - - - - - 108	———	12	63
Quickeſt, or wheeling time, 120	———	9	80

A muſket ball, ſuſpended by a ſtring which is not ſubject to ſtretch, and on which is marked the different required lengths, will anſwer the above purpoſe.

To the equal and unvaried cadence and length of ſtep, thus attained by habit, can troops alone truſt for the preſervation of their line in advancing upon an enemy, when duſt, the ſmoke of artillery, rain, fog, and many local circumſtances, make it impoſſible to depend on diſtant points, the uncertain time given by timid muſicians, or any other adventitious ſtep*.

As the non-commiſſioned officers of volunteer corps have often (in the occaſional abſence of the ſuperior Officers) charge of diviſions, they ſhould ſtudy to make themſelves ſufficiently acquainted with the duties here pointed out, ſo that they may, at all times and changes of the battalion, be enabled to act in the ſeparate capacities when called to that ſituation.

When doing duty in their reſpective ſtations, every attention ſhould be paid, when covering, to fall out readily, ſo as to mark the ground neceſſary for the required movement; and when acting as ſupernumerary, to keep the rear ranks cloſe locked up; alſo to obſerve that they take their ground properly during the firings, and that they do not fall back in loading.

As the volunteer act requires a certain extent of duty to be performed by thoſe who compoſe corps of that deſcription, before they can draw pay, accurate cheque rolls of the attendance of every individual in the reſpective companies muſt therefore be attended to by the Serjeants, ſo as to enable them to make exact and juſt returns to the Commanding Officer.

* See the Drill-Serjeant and Corporal's Aſſiſtant, publiſhed by Capt. Roy of the 4th Fencible Regiment, which comprehends many uſeful and neceſſary directions.

To ſum up theſe brief remarks—order, ſteadineſs, and attention in the ſoldier, ſhould at all times be implicitly adhered to, and cannot be too often inculcated; that, even in the midſt of ſurrounding noiſes, his eye and ear be attentive to his own immediate Officer only, the loudneſs of whoſe commands, inſtead of creating confuſion or unſteadineſs, reconcile to the hurry of action.

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